

**TOP SECRET**

25X

28 March 1966

Page 3

CAPRIVI STRIP AIRFIELD  
SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

1. SIGNIFICANCE: THE LARGE AIRFIELD RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED IN THE CAPRIVI STRIP OF SOUTH-WEST AFRICA IS NEARING COMPLETION.
2. REMARKS: THIS AIRFIELD IS BEING BUILT BY THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AS AN "EMERGENCY LANDING STRIP." HOWEVER, VARIOUS COLLATERAL REPORTS, THE AIRFIELD'S SIZE, AND ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION BORDERING ON ANGOLA, ZAMBIA, BECHUANALAND, AND RHODESIA, SUGGEST THAT THE AIRFIELD MAY BE INTENDED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. WHEN COMPLETED, FACILITIES AT THIS AIRFIELD WILL INCLUDE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS, A WORK SHOP, AND TWELVE 5,000 GALLON FUEL TANKS.
3. LOCATION: IN THE CAPRIVI STRIP, A FINGER OF LAND JUTTING EAST-WARD FROM SOUTH-WEST AFRICA; APPROXIMATELY 9 NM SSW OF THE TOWN OF KATIMA MOLILO.
4. COLLATERAL: THE TERMS OF A LEAGUE OF NATIONS MANDATE UNDER WHICH SOUTH AFRICA GOVERNS THE TERRITORY OF SOUTH-WEST AFRICA, PROHIBIT THE CONSTRUCTION OF MILITARY BASES

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of

25X

**TOP SECRET**

**TOP SECRET**

25X

28 March 1966

Page 4

OR THE STATIONING OF TROOPS IN THE AREA. THE LEGALITY OF THIS MANDATE HAS RECENTLY BEEN CONTESTED BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, WHICH IS REVIEWING SOUTH AFRICA'S ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORY.

ACCORDING TO THE [REDACTED]

25X

[REDACTED] THE CREW OF A RHODESIAN CIVIL AIRCRAFT WHICH OVERFLEW THE CAPRIVI STRIP IN LATE SEPTEMBER, OBSERVED A SQUADRON OF SOUTH AFRICAN JET FIGHTERS AND SOME HEAVY TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT AT THE AIRFIELD. THEIR PRESENCE MIGHT BE ATTRIBUTED EITHER TO A TRAINING EXERCISE OR TO SOUTH AFRICAN CONCERN OVER THE RHODESIAN POLITICAL SITUATION. HOWEVER, ANY INDICATION OF MILITARY USE OF THIS AIRFIELD WOULD MOST LIKELY RAISE PROTESTS FROM OTHER AFRICAN STATES, POSSIBLY WITH SOME INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS.

25X

5. FIRST IDENTIFICATION: [REDACTED]

25X

6. NEGATION DATE: NONE.7. SUBSEQUENT COVERAGE: NONE.

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue.

25X

**TOP SECRET**

TOP SECRET

25X

28 March 1966

Page 5

8. DIMENSIONS/  
SPECIFICATIONS: 7,525 X 130 FT ENE/WSW RUNWAY.
9. MISSION READOUT: THIS MISSION REVEALS A 7,525 X 130 FT ENE/WSW UNSERVICE-  
ABLE RUNWAY WITH A PARALLEL TAXIWAY, 2 END-CONNECTING LINKS AND 2 CROSS-  
OVER LINKS, 1 PARKING APRON, AND 2 ALERT APRONS. THE SURFACE MATERIAL OF  
THE RUNWAY AND CROSSOVER LINKS APPEARS TO BE WINDROWED, POSSIBLY INDICATING  
THE BLENDING OF AGGREGATE OR A BINDING MATERIAL PRIOR TO FINAL SURFACING.

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue.

25X

TOP SECRET

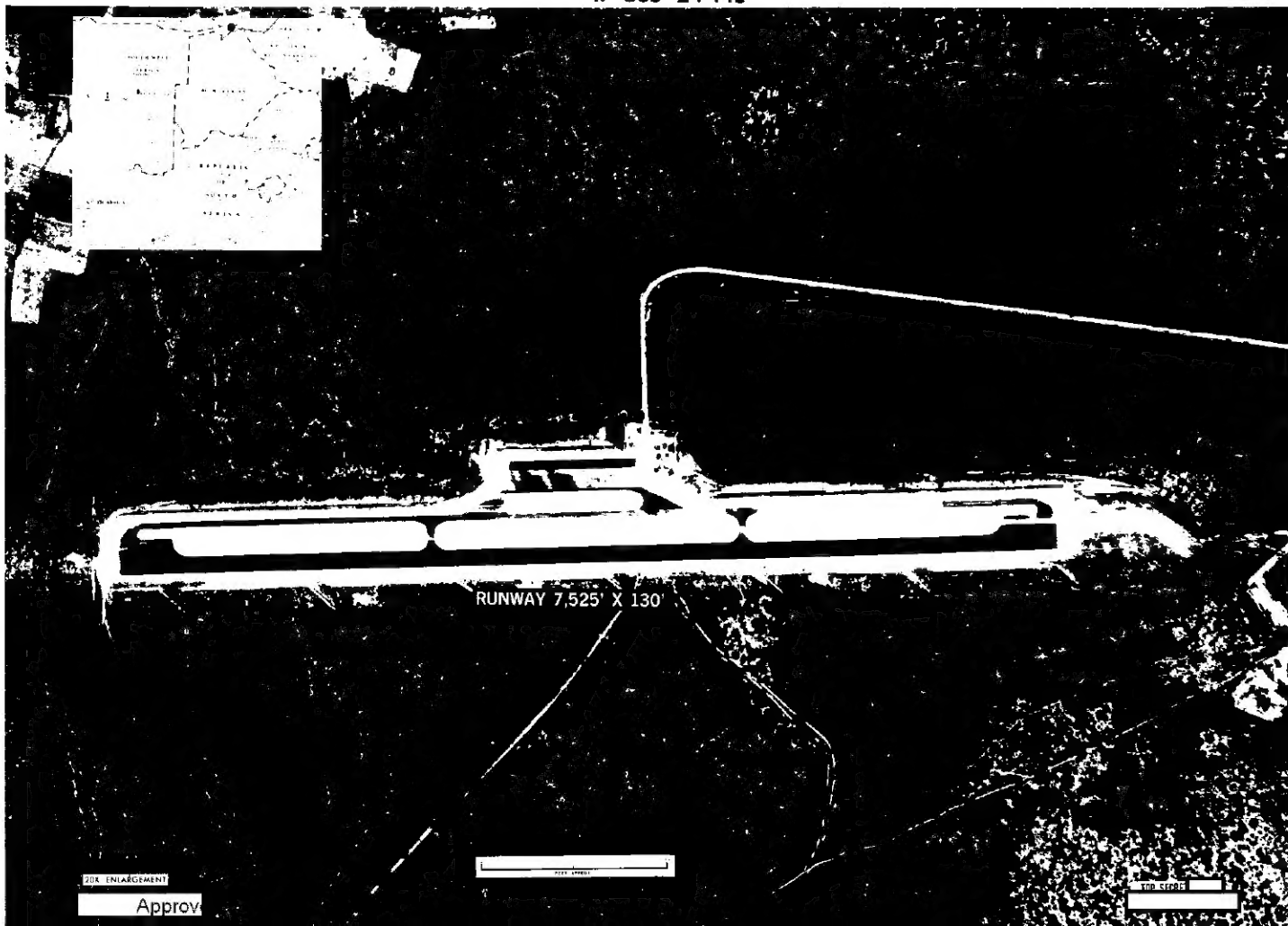
Approved For Release 2006/11/21 : CIA-RDP78T05929A001500070006-2

TOP SECRET



NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER  
**CAPRIVI STRIP AIRFIELD**  
**SOUTH-WEST AFRICA**  
17-38S 24-14E

25X1  
25X1  
25X1



20X ENLARGEMENT

Approved

TOP SECRET

25X1

**Page Denied**